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27662 7590 09/17/2008

MICROSOFT CORPORATION
C/O LYON & HARR, LLP
300 ESPLANADE DRIVE
SUITE 800
OXNARD, CA 93036

EXAMINER

CORRIELUS, JEAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 09/17/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/681,183

02/13/2001

Stephan P. Capps

MCS-058-00(158445.01)

7809

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING A UNIVERSAL AND AUTOMATIC COMMUNICATION ACCESS POINT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	12/17/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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27662 7590 09/17/2008

**MICROSOFT CORPORATION
C/O LYON & HARR, LLP
300 ESPLANADE DRIVE
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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/681,183 02/13/2001 Stephan P. Capps MCS-058-00(158445.01) 7809

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING A UNIVERSAL AND AUTOMATIC COMMUNICATION ACCESS POINT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1440 \$300 \$0 \$1740 12/17/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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CORRIELUS, JEAN M 2162 707-003000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/681,183	02/13/2001	Stephan P. Capps	MCS-058-00(158445.01)	7809
27662	7590	09/17/2008	EXAMINER	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION C/O LYON & HARR, LLP 300 ESPLANADE DRIVE SUITE 800 OXNARD, CA 93036			CORRIELUS, JEAN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2162	
			DATE MAILED: 09/17/2008	

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 623 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 623 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/681,183	CAPPS, STEPHAN P.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean M. Corrielus	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/05/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 4-8, 14-15, 17-25, 27-30, 32-35, 37-45 and 47-50 renumbered as 1-39.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

/Jean M Corrielus/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in regard to the examiner's amendment below.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark A. Watson (Reg. No. 41, 370) on September 8, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for automatically alerting a user to available information comprising a computing device having a memory and a processor for:
automatically interpreting and parsing information recovered from an electronic document being displayed on a display device coupled to the computing device to identify data representing an entity;
automatically identifying at least one entity represented by the identified data, by comparing the identified data to information contained in at least one local or remote electronic database to identify each entity associated with the identified data;
automatically retrieving information relating to each identified entity from at least one electronic database;
automatically notifying the user that the retrieved information is available via a visual or audible alert;

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automatically modifying an appearance of the electronic document being rendered on the computer display device by editing the electronic document to insert at least one graphical presence indicator into the electronic document in a location adjacent to the data representing each identified entity; and

using at least a portion of the retrieved information relating to one or more of the identified entity to automatically provide the user with at least one textual or graphical links to at least one communications account for initiating communication with each identified entity via a user interface.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one presence indicator is an icon representing at least one communication access point related to the retrieved information.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one electronic interface for initiating communication with one or more of the identified entity includes any of an email address, an instant messaging account, a telephone number, a fax number, and an Internet address for communicating with the identified entity.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein parsing the recovered electronic information to identify data representing the entity comprises identifying textual data associated with the entity.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the textual data associated with the entity includes any of: a name, an email address, a telephone number, a fax number, and a social security number.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein parsing the recovered electronic information to identify data representing the entity comprises identifying graphical data associated with any entity.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein the graphical data associated with the entity includes any image for representing at least one entity.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

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14. The system of claim 1 wherein dynamically modifying the appearance of the electronic document comprises changing the appearance of the identified data.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein dynamically modifying the appearance of the electronic information being displayed on the display device further comprises automatically associating at least one hyperlink with the identified data.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising automatically determining an online status for each identified entity by querying at least one messaging account server for each identified entity.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17 wherein each presence indicator graphically represents the online status of each identified entity.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 wherein the graphical representation of the online status of each identified entity is automatically updated by re-querying the at least one messaging account server for each identified entity.

20. The system of claim 1 further comprising a graphical user interface for interacting with the retrieved information.

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21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20 wherein the graphical user interface comprises at least one pop-up window for displaying the retrieved information for each identified entity.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20 wherein the graphical user interface comprises at least one context-sensitive menu for interacting with the retrieved information for each identified entity.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20 wherein the graphical user interface comprises at least one hyperlink for accessing the retrieved information for each identified entity via a computer pointing device.

24 (Currently Amended). A computer-implemented process for automatically providing information on a computer display device, comprising:

automatically interpreting and scanning electronic data retrieved from an electronic document being rendered on the computer display device to identify information within the retrieved electronic data that represents at least one entity;

automatically identifying at least one entity represented by the identified data, by comparing the data to information contained in at least one local or remote electronic database;

automatically retrieving information relating to each identified entity from at least one electronic database;

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automatically notifying the user that the retrieved information is available via a visual or audible alert;

automatically providing to the user along with the audible or visual alert one or more textual or graphical links to the retrieved information;

automatically modifying an appearance of the electronic document being rendered on the computer display device by editing the electronic document to insert at least one graphical presence indicator into the electronic document in a location adjacent to the data representing each identified entity; and

using at least a portion of the retrieved information relating to one or more of the identified entity to automatically provide a user interface for initiating communication with the identified entity via at least one electronic communication access point.

25. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein the user interface provides a user access for viewing the retrieved information.

26. (Cancelled)

27. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein dynamically modifying the electronic data rendered on the computer display device comprises automatically changing the appearance of textual information representing the identified information.

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28. The computer-implemented process of claim 27 wherein dynamically modifying the electronic data rendered on the computer display device further comprises automatically associating at least one hyperlink with the textual information.

29. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein dynamically modifying the electronic data rendered on the computer display device comprises automatically changing the appearance of graphical information representing the identified information.

30. The computer-implemented process of claim 29 wherein dynamically modifying the electronic data rendered on the computer display device further comprises automatically associating at least one hyperlink with the graphical information.

31. (Cancelled)

32. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein each presence indicator comprises an associated pop-up window for providing the retrieved information to a user.

33. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein each presence indicator comprises an associated context-sensitive menu for providing the retrieved information to a user.

34. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein each presence indicator comprises automatically indicating an online status of each identified entity.

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35. The computer-implemented process of claim 24 wherein the at least one communication access point includes one or more of an email address, an instant messaging account, a telephone number, a fax number, and an Internet address.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for dynamically modifying an electronic document rendered on a computer display device, said computer executable instructions comprising:

automatically evaluating electronic information of an electronic document being rendered on a display device coupled to the computing device for detecting any information in the electronic document that represents at least one entity;

automatically identifying each entity based on a comparison of the detected information to data in at least one electronic database;

automatically retrieving data related to each identified entity from at least one electronic database;

dynamically modifying the rendered display of the electronic document by changing an appearance of the electronic document on the display device for alerting a user that data related to each identified entity has been retrieved by editing that document to insert at least one presence indicator into the electronic document, each said presence indicator being inserted into the electronic document in a location adjacent to the detected information representing the at least one entity; and

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using at least a portion of the retrieved information relating to one or more of the identified entity to automatically provide a user interface for initiating communication with the identified entity via at least one electronic communication access point.

38. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein detecting any information in the electronic document that represents at least one entity comprises identifying any data associated with any entity.

39. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein identifying any data associated with any entity comprises identifying characteristics of at least one image within the electronic document using at least one image recognition technique.

40. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein retrieving data related to each identified entity from at least one electronic database comprises retrieving any of entity data and contact information from the at least one electronic database.

41. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein dynamically modifying the rendered display of the electronic document further comprises changing the appearance of any text associated with the detected information.

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42. The computer-readable medium of claim 41 wherein changing the appearance of any text associated with the detected information further comprises associating at least one hyperlink with the text associated with the detected information.

43. The computer-readable medium of claim 42 wherein the at least one hyperlink includes at least one link to the retrieved data.

44. The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein the at least one link to the retrieved data includes at least one communication access point for initiating at least one communication with each identified entity, said communication access points including via one or more of an email address, an instant messaging account, a telephone number, a fax number, and an Internet address.

45. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein dynamically modifying the rendered display of the electronic document further comprises changing the appearance of any image associated with the detected information and associating at least one hyperlink with each image.

46. (Cancelled)

47. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein each presence indicator further comprises an associated pop-up window for providing the retrieved information to a user.

48. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein each presence indicator further comprises an associated context-sensitive menu for providing the retrieved information to a user.

49. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 wherein each presence indicator further comprises automatically indicating an online status of each identified entity.

50. The computer-readable medium of claim 37 further comprising a user interface for interacting with the retrieved data.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The present application has been thoroughly reviewed. Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that claims 1-2, 4-8, 14-15, 17-25, 27-30, 32-35, 37-45 and 47-50 are allowable in light of the prior art made of record (see PTO 892).

Conclusion

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean M. Corrielus whose telephone number is (571) 272-4032.

The examiner can normally be reached on 10 hours shift.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)? If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jean M Corrielus/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162

September 17, 2008